

"To Our Pride In the Past, and Our Hope for the Future, Let Us Add Vigorous Work in the Living Present."

H. M. WHITE & SON, Props. — L. M. WHITE, Editor.

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CELEBRATE THEIR
GOLDEN WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Beam, of Molino, celebrated their fiftieth anniversary Sunday, March 13, with a reunion of a large number of their friends and relatives. The guests included the following: Mr. and Mrs. Earl Beam, Paris, Mo.; Mr. and Mrs. Jim Beam, Hannibal, Mo.; Mrs. Tena Heizer, Dalton, Neb.; Bob Beam, Malta, Mont.; Miss Essie Beam, Santa Fe, Mo.; Mrs. Ray Worley and son, Bobby, Thompson, Mo.; Mrs. Annie Heizer, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Beam, Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Worley and daughter, Martha, Miss Anna Belle Worley, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Blum, Mexico; Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Heizer, Mr. and Mrs. Will Heizer and daughter, Hattie Dee, Harry Heizer, Joe Wilson, Miss Rebecca Fisher, David Fisher, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Fisher, Miss Nina Fisher, Molino.

Bobby Worley represented the fourth generation present. Among the presents which Mr. and Mrs. Beam received were several five-dollar gold pieces, and some flowers which were sent by Dr. and Mrs. A. A. Larsen, of Dalton, Neb. Mrs. Larsen is a niece of Mr. and Mrs. Beam.

D. C. Haskell
Dies Saturday
In Pasadena

D. C. Haskell, a former resident of this city, died at the home of his son, Oscar Haskell in Pasadena, Cal., Saturday night at 11:30. The cause of his death was heart failure. No particulars as to the funeral have been received here as yet, but it is probable that he will be buried in Pasadena.

Mr. Haskell was well known in Mexico, as he was one of its prominent citizens until he left, six years ago. He was in the oil business here. Mr. Haskell was 62 years old. He was born in Boone, Iowa, but lived in Mexico for a long time.

He is survived by his wife, who is in Pasadena, and a sister, Mrs. Arthur Holmes, of Mexico, and four brothers: E. C. Haskell, of Moline, Iowa; T. J. Haskell, of Oklahoma City; B. F. and J. M. Haskell, of Mexico.

The Ledger joins the community in extending sincere sympathy to the bereaved.

WOULD BUILD
ELECTRIC LINE
ACROSS STATE

"Just as soon as conditions improve and business resumes a more normal tone I intend to get busy in order to see what I can do towards organizing an electric road company to build a line to connect Kansas City with St. Louis," said J. M. Ferguson, of Montgomery City in the Columbia Tribune Saturday.

"I figure upon the possibilities of traffic, the route of the road will be as follows," he stated. "From Kansas City to Independence in order to take advantage of the heavy passenger and freight business between these two points in the immediate Kansas City territory; thence to Higginville, Sedalia, Booneville, Jefferson City, Columbia, Williamsburg, Mineola Springs, Montgomery City and from that point on to St. Louis by the side of the Washburn tracks. There will be no difficulties about the right of way or the grading work, as much as this has been obviated by the work of the late W. H. Chase, of Atlanta and Chicago, who had the same project under consideration some few years ago. I do not know anything about the estimates made at the time, but I believe that the road can be built for about \$17,500 per mile and that \$3,000,000 will be the preliminary cost. Barrett Brothers, the Sedalia bankers, are also interested in the scheme. For the past few months many parties between Kansas City and St. Louis have called upon me, urging me to undertake the promotion of the road."

Court Appoints Commissioners. The County Court Thursday appointed commissioners in the case of J. C. Beckman against C. S. Sims and Chris Mattie, to investigate the proposed drainage ditch and make a report as to the need for the ditch. They are also to assess the property damage if they find any. The commissioners appointed were Harry Householder, R. P. Emmons and Alex Carter.

THE COUNTY
SCHOOL MEET
HERE FRIDAY

The Annual Audrain County School Round-Up will be held in this city Friday. Fully 200 country school children are expected and at least 20 teachers. The meeting will be in charge of County Superintendent of Schools Offutt and R. H. Emberson, of Columbia. The Audrain Chamber of Commerce will have all the visitors as their guests at a picture show party. There will be several other entertainment features added later.

9:30—Assembly, club songs.
10:00—Button hole contest (Girls)
10:40—Culling demonstration (Boys)
11:00—Soil judging contest (Boys and Girls)
11:30—Corn judging contest (Boys and Girls)
1:00—Assembly, Club Songs.
1:30—Sewing Demonstration.
1:50—Soil Demonstration.
2:30—Bread judging Demonstration.

2:30—Model Club meeting.
3:00—Hot Lunch Demonstration.
3:20—Announcement of awards.
Songs by different clubs between demonstrations.

The following club exhibits will be made:

Class I. First year sewing—club exhibit consisting of 2 each of the following: bags, caps, aprons, gowns and bloomers.

Class II. Second year—club exhibit consisting of 2 each of the following: something for the home (Towels, hankies, tray clothes, pillow cases, curtains) aprons slip or petticoat, combination suit, wash dress.

Class III. Soil—club exhibit of at least three samples of soils studied, map of district showing farms where soils were obtained.

Class IV. Corn—club exhibit of 10 ears selected by club, card stating variety and score according to score card.

Class V. Wheat—club exhibit of 3 loaves of bread, 1 dozen rolls, a dozen cookies and 1 dozen rolled cookies.

None but regularly organized clubs may enter exhibits. Prizes for each class will be as follows:

\$3.00—1st prize.
\$2.00—2nd prize.
\$1.00—3rd prize.
In addition ribbons will be awarded.

Contests will be held:
I. Soils—judging samples of soils.
II. Corn—judging samples of corn.
III. Sewing—making button holes, sewing on buttons.

IV. Club story—The best written story of club work for this year which may include date of organization, number of members, names of leader and officers, work done by club, demonstrations given, public meetings held with map, pictures or drawings to illustrate.
1—2 or 3.
Prizes for each contest will be as follows:
3.00—1st prize.
2.00—2nd prize.
1.00—3rd prize.
In addition, ribbons will be awarded.

All stories must be in office by March 12.

MRS. SIMONS DIES

Mrs. Mary Austin Simons, of South Olive street, died Sunday night about 12 o'clock. She is survived by two sons and two daughters. Mrs. Simons was 54 years old. She moved to Mexico only a short time ago. Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the house. The services were conducted by the Rev. J. D. Greer, and burial was in Elmwood Cemetery. The Ledger joins with the community in extending sincere sympathy to the bereaved.

Sylvan Hammonds to Neosho. Sylvan M. Hammonds, the 16-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Hammonds of Mexico, who has been connected with the Western Union Telegraph Co. here for the past three years, left Saturday for Neosho, Kan. to manage an office there for the Western Union.

Miss Helen Heizer, of Hardin College, was the week-end guest of Miss Frances Masters, of Synodical College, in Fulton.

Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Hays went to St. Louis, Monday, for an extended visit.

J. C. Morris, of Laddonia, was a visitor in Mexico Sunday.

Welcome To Mexico

Friday Mexico will be the host to over two hundred country school children who will be in this city attending the School Round-up.

Mexico is always glad to welcome the little folks from the county and will endeavor in every way to make their stay in this city a pleasant and profitable one.

The future of Mexico and Audrain county rests with its children. What they become through their own efforts and the opportunities given them to progress is indicative of what the community will be when they reach an age to become an active factor in its development.

Too much cannot be done to help and encourage children in their ambitions. It is a debt we owe to society as well as a pleasure we owe ourselves.

L. M. White

\$15,000 VERDICT
AGAINST MID-WEST
IN FIRST SUIT

A verdict for \$15,000 was awarded Monday by a jury in the Mississippi County Circuit Court at Charleston, Mo., in favor of Frank Meir, a farmer of Vanduser, Mo., in an action for alleged fraud and deceit against Wallace Crossley, former Lieutenant Governor; E. P. Deal, former State Treasurer; L. O. Goodin of La Plata, Mo., a banker; Circuit Judge C. A. Burney of the Sixteenth Judicial District, and J. A. Wilson, Kansas City lumberman, as directors of the Missouri Midwest Oil Co. The verdict will be of interest here as a number in Audrain have some of this stock.

The suit is the first to be tried of 74 which were filed in December, 1919, by stockholders of the company in Southeast Missouri counties, all making the same allegations and asking for judgments for \$47,000.

The Meir verdict was for the full amount that he had paid for stock of the company.

Changes To Be
Made In Rural
School Districts

New plans for the rural school districts are being made for this year according to Ed C. Offutt county superintendent of schools, so that every boy and girl living in the rural districts especially will have the opportunity to go to school. In some of the school houses two teachers will be placed. Each school will have ten grades, and each teacher will have charge of five of them. This can be easily accomplished because of the size of the schoolhouses; however, board partitions will be put in to separate the different grades.

In other schools where high school work is desired, the pupils of the ninth and tenth grades will assist the one teacher in taking of the other grades. The work of these students will be under the close supervision of the teacher. This work will, of course, require teachers of unusual ability and experience.

Mr. Offutt says that the salary offered in these schools will be large enough to induce the better teachers to undertake the work. He thinks that with the passage of some of the bills now before the Legislature, the county will have more of the state money for school work than ever before.

"This year's work," said Mr. Offutt, "has shown a great increase in the proportion of attendance, owing to the close supervision of J. W. Adams, attendance officer. Mr. Adams has even surpassed last year's record for work."

The children in the rural schools are very much interested in the Round-Up which is to be held in Mexico, March 13. The boys especially are taking an interest in it.

Mrs. J. H. Bell, of Auxvasse, Mo., died at her home at 2:10 o'clock Sunday morning, following a stroke of apoplexy. Mrs. Bell was 60 years old. She was born in Callaway County, and had lived in Auxvasse for about fifty years. She is survived by her husband and four sons.

Treasurer's Office Moved. J. C. Rings, county treasurer, moved into his new office in the court house Tuesday morning.

BRIDGE PLAN
AT GLASGOW
IS CHEAPEST

The plan to bridge the Missouri river at Glasgow so that traffic on the Old Trail's Route and the Golden Belt Route, the latter passing through Mexico and Audrain county, is receiving much serious consideration.

This would eliminate the delay of ferry crossings and naturally bring much traffic to these two highways. A traffic bridge over the Missouri at this point would meet with general approval and tend to bring motor tourist traffic through here.

A Bridge Committee is at work on the matter at present and it is hoped that soon something definite along this line will be announced. The bridge at Glasgow would be a combination one and in conjunction with the C. & A. railroad bridge over the river. The cost of placing traffic ways on this bridge would be about \$200,000 while in crossing the river elsewhere an expenditure of half a million at least is required according to late estimates.

JOE C. DAVIS
HEADS LOCAL
ELKS LODGE

At the annual election of the Mexico Elks Lodge, Friday evening Joe C. Davis was named Exalted Ruler. Over a hundred members attended the gathering.

Other officers elected were: Esteemed Leading Knight, John Barclay; Esteemed Loyal Knight Bryan Atchison; Esteemed Lecturing Knight Duncan Major; Secretary S. D. Burns; Tyler Lynden Davis; Trustee for three years, W. D. Lee, delegate to National convention in Los Angeles in July, past Exalted Ruler F. N. Henderson; Treasurer, Claiborne Jackson.

The Lodge now has a membership of about 400. It is quite likely that the initiation fee will be doubled in May.

COUPLE WED HERE

Miss Maurine Peery, of Martinsburg, and Lake Dillard, of near Laddonia, were married by the Rev. J. D. Greer at his home in Mexico at 6 o'clock Monday afternoon. The bride is the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Peery, of Martinsburg. Mr. Dillard is a nephew of Mrs. J. D. Greer. Mrs. Dillard is a very popular and well-known young lady. Their many friends in the community join in extending to the young couple their congratulations and best wishes.

A. N. Hanback Acquitted. In the case of the city of Mexico against A. N. Hanback, which was tried in the Circuit Court Monday, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty for the defendant. Hanback, who is a C. & A. engineer, was charged with holding a train longer than is allowed at a street crossing.

In the Circuit Court Tuesday morning, Gip Hutchison, negro, pleaded guilty of violating the prohibition law and was fined \$300 and costs.

John Burgess has received an especially fine and artistic twist of white burley tobacco from his nephew, Sewell Burgess of Mt. Sterling, Ky. John says when he gets his pipe stocked with this and his silk hat parked at the proper angle life is sure worth living.

ROTARY CLUB
IS FORMED
IN MEXICO

Mexico has a Rotary Club. It is affiliated with the International organization of Rotary Clubs and Wednesday evening, at the Hotel Hoxsey, the Moberly and Hannibal Rotary clubs were here and installed the Mexico club.

The officers of the local club are: T. J. Williams president, 1st vice-president Fred A. Morris, 2nd vice-president Walker Pollock, 3rd vice-president Fred W. Pilcher, secretary C. W. Edmonston, treasurer Earl Brown, Sergeant at Arms A. R. Dallmeyer. The officers with Dr. D. T. Moore include the directors.

The members of the organization are: Earl Brown, E. Y. Burton, T. J. Williams, W. W. Fry, Jr., B. M. Marlow, A. P. Green, P. E. Coll, C. C. Bledsoe, W. W. Pollock, D. T. Moore, F. A. Morris, F. W. Pilcher, C. W. Edmonston, A. R. Dallmeyer, L. B. Hawthorn, Mitchell White.

The membership is composed of one man from each line of business. It has a high code of business ethics and Mexico is today the smallest city in the United States with such a club as the organization has just opened its roster to the smaller cities.

RURAL SCHOOLS CLOSE

Several Audrain County schools will close within the next two weeks. The Jesse school, three miles west of Mexico, will close a very successful term March 25. This school is taught by Mrs. John Fecht. The Naylor school, fourteen miles west of here, will close the same day, as will also the Union school, three miles south. These schools are taught by Miss Mary Leta Jones and Miss Bessie Watson.

Selby Swift, who has charge of a school four miles north of Rush Hill, will complete the term with an elaborate program, April 15.

The papers for fifty graduates of the country schools have been graded in the office of Superintendent Ed C. Offutt, and certificates for these students have been made out. They are for graduates of rural schools all over the county.

Arrangements are being made by a large proportion of the boys and girls who are graduating from these schools to attend high school the coming winter. Most of them will attend high schools in this county; a few will go to other counties on account of having relatives there. About 200 will be graduated this year.

Three other schools which will close March 25 are: West Lick school, taught by Prof. A. H. Kerr, about four miles north of Laddonia; High Hill school, ten miles southwest of Mexico, taught by Miss Wilma Jesse; Harrison school, fourteen miles northwest of here, taught by Miss Ruth Haley.

AUDRAIN WILL
HAVE FIFTEEN
NEW BRIDGES

Audrain County is to have fifteen new steel bridges. Friday the County Court, through R. S. McKinney, ex-officio highway engineer, made a contract with the Pan-American Bridge Co. of Newcastle, Ind., for fifteen new steel bridges to be constructed in Audrain County. The total cost of these bridges will amount to \$16,250.

The bridges which will be built are as follows:

Name	Length
Spencer	20 feet
Jack Brown	40 feet
Hite	40 feet
Hickerson	68 feet
Berry	74 feet
Harsberger	36 feet
Offutt	36 feet
Wilson	30 feet
Bob Dye	24 feet
Scholl	30 feet
Hofess	30 feet
Myer	45x12 feet
Littleby	84 feet
Sutton	40x12 feet

Son to Mrs. D. C. Stuart.

A nine and one-half pound son was born March 6 to Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Stuart of Rockwell, Iowa. Mrs. Stuart was formerly Miss Gladys Estes of this city, and is a daughter of Mrs. C. B. Schopp. Mrs. Schopp is with her daughter now.

Mrs. Joe Bush, who had been visiting her mother, Mrs. J. M. Davis, of Fulton, returned to Mexico Thursday. Mexico visitor Friday.

WILL INSTALL
ROCK CRUSHING
PLANT SOON

Joe Mongler, one of Audrain's progressive farmers, will install a \$10,000 rock crushing plant on his farm northeast of this city 7 miles, shortly. The plant will crush the limestone on his place and will have a 100 ton daily capacity.

Mr. Mongler expects to crush two sizes. One will be very fine and will be used as fertilizer on farms where lime is needed to sweeten the soil. The other will be larger and used for putting on the highways to improve them.

Callaway county is installing a similar though larger plant with local capital. Mr. Mongler says the soil in Audrain, in many places, needs a treatment of lime and he feels sure the demand for his product will justify the investment. He expects to have his plant in operation shortly.

FARMERS WIN
VICTORY WITH
EXCHANGE BILL

JEFFERSON CITY, March 10.—The live stock exchange bill, declaring all live stock exchanges in the state to be public markets, was passed by the senate by a vote of 21 to 10. The measure prepared and advocated by the Missouri Farmers Association seeks by legislation to force membership into the various exchanges for the farmers' co-operative marketing associations. The farmers are contending they, as producers, have the right to market and sell their own products through their own associations and by doing so eliminate the middle man. The exchange men say they have no objection to the farmers coming into the exchanges as individuals providing they agree to abide by the rules and by-laws of the exchange. But they seriously object to the farmers' organizations coming into the exchanges through legislation.

The administration bill for a state bureau of immigration has been passed by the house. The bureau, to be under the department of agriculture, is to advertise Missouri and to start the flow of population back to the rural communities of the state. The 1920 federal census disclosed the startling fact that about ninety Missouri counties have lost in population the last ten years.

The house passed today the Lay bill, which seeks to limit passenger rates in Missouri to 2 1/2 cents a mile, and to forbid the public service commission to increase that rate. The vote was 102 to 23. In the house debate attacks were made on the public service committee. The present intrastate rate between points in Missouri has been fixed at more than 3 cents a mile, which is the present intrastate commerce commission rate. Attention was called to the fact that there is a 2-cent rate on the statute books. If passed by the senate, the question will be whether the public service commission's rate making power can be limited by the legislature.

The house passed the Taylor bill to require theaters and moving picture shows to display signs at their ticket windows when all seats are sold. Patrons are entitled to their money back when not provided seats, and the theater owners may be prosecuted on a misdemeanor charge for violations of this act.

The senate passed the city manager bill enabling cities of the third class to adopt the city manager form of government. A similar bill has been engrossed by the house and probably will be passed this week.

The senate also passed the dog bill providing for a state tax of \$1 for male and \$3 for female dogs.

A joint and concurrent resolution to eliminate the word "male" from the section of the Missouri constitution, describing qualifications of the electorate, was completed in the Legislature by passage in the House.

Schools Closed by Smallpox. MACON, Mo., March 15.—The Board of Education has ordered all schools here closed for a week as a precautionary measure against the spread of smallpox. All of the cases here now are of a mild nature, and by the end of the week it is believed that all danger will have passed. A general vaccination order also has been issued by the board.

S. P. Cunningham, county clerk, was sick Friday and unable to be at his office.

E. E. Lewis, of Laddonia, was a visitor in Mexico Friday.

COUNCIL HEARS
ORDINANCE FOR
PARKING CARS

An ordinance regulating the parking of cars in the business district of the city was given two readings at the meeting of the City Council Monday night. The idea of the ordinance was to prohibit the parking of cars in the congested business area.

Mayor J. F. Harrison made the following financial statement: Balance in the general fund \$7,220.99 Balance in the light fund \$5,669.48 Balance in the library fund \$2,96.15 Balance in cemetery fund \$1,100.52 Balance in the road fund \$ 255.36 Balance in septic tank fund \$5,849.93 Balance in sewage disposal bonds \$25,258.07

Bills were allowed to the amount of \$2,269. A complaint was made of dirt being dumped on a lot east of W. W. VanMeter. The matter was referred to the board of health. The city attorney was instructed to draw up an ordinance providing for a district sewer on East Monroe street. It was moved by D. C. Owen that the city engineer make an estimate of the cost of macadam on Pleasant street from Jefferson to Woodlawn. W. J. Sannebeck moved that the city engineer make an estimate also of the cost of a sewer on West Liberty street.

\$500 Raised
For Equipping
Playgrounds

The equipment of the Central School playgrounds with modern apparatus is assured, according to the report made by J. E. Streif, chairman of the committee in charge of the movement, to the Central School Parent-Teacher Association at the organization's meeting Thursday evening. Over \$500 has been raised by popular subscriptions toward the fund and the committee will continue soliciting until all patrons and persons interested in the welfare of Central School have been given an opportunity to participate in the movement.

About 150 patrons and friends of Central School were present. In the discussion that followed chairman Streif's report it was pointed out by several speakers that but little improvement has been made in the condition of the building and grounds of Central School since the time that the building was the only one for the white children of the entire school district. Upon motion the president was instructed to appoint a committee to appear in conjunction with a committee from the South Side School Parent-Teacher Association before the Board of Education for the purpose of laying before that body the needs of the schools as the same is viewed by the two organizations. This committee from Central School will be composed of W. R. Jackson, Mrs. Rolla McIntire and Mrs. E. H. Tinscher.

Those who participated in the discussion included W. R. Jackson, Mrs. E. H. Carter, Col. E. Y. Burton, F. W. Pilcher, the Rev. F. W. Emerson, Q. R. Johnson and others. Miss Louise Morrill, representing the Social Service work in the city, made an interesting talk in favor of the establishing of a room or bed in the Audrain County Hospital for use of the school children of the city who need medical and surgical attention.

The entertainment included several selections by the Central School Orchestra and songs by the pupils of Miss Cauthorn's room of Grade 5. The meeting concluded with a social hour at which pie and coffee was served.

The prize, awarded at every meeting to the room which has the largest representation of parents, was given to Miss Cauthorn's room, Grade 5.

Candidates For Postmaster. Interest in the matter of the postmasterhip under the Republican administration is growing here. Both E. R. Taft and L. McF. Gamble are being mentioned for the place of local postmaster. The present postmaster's term does not expire for over a year. Postmasterhips have been taken from the civil service list and will again be made "political pie" according to announcements from Washington.

Fire on West Monroe. There was a small fire on West Monroe street Thursday morning. However, it did very little damage and was practically out when the fire truck arrived.